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ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN THE ENRICHMENT OF CANADIAN STUDIES IN INDIA.

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Abstract:

The popularity of the Internet and the explosion of information are two major factors for the Librarians to face new challenges to look for new ways to meet the Patron's expectations and new demands. Many innovative services can be possible by adopting new technology with traditional library information services to bring information to various Patrons. Foreign Language Study demands more information, Literature with more Information Services. This article explores how Library can be played Important Role to enhance Canadian Studies in India with information pushing programs, various innovative Service to maximize the related resources and services.

Key Words: Canadian Study, Information Retrieval, Innovative Service, Role of the Library

Introduction:

“Learning to speak another's language means taking one's place in the human community. It means reaching out to others across cultural and linguistic boundaries. Language is far more than a system to be explained. It is our most important link to the world around us. Language is culture in motion. It is people interacting with people.”

-Sandra Savignon (1983)

To increase their sensitivity and understanding of the language, values, customs, and traditions of others, Foreign Language plays important role to create Humanity and Understanding between two Country's people. Canadian studies is a college-level study of Canadian culture, the spoken languages of Canada, Canadian literature, Quebec, agriculture in Canada, the history of Canada, and Canadian government and politics. In India as well as in abroad many Centres has been established to promote Canadian Studies as well as **India-Canada Studies too**. Information Resource Centre – Library plays major role to enhance the Canadian studies in India by various Resources and Services.

Two recent newspaper articles - one in the Ottawa Citizen and the other in University Affairs, mentioned that Canadian Studies in Canadian universities attract fewer students every year. Some well-known Canadianists were interviewed for these articles and shared their thoughts on the reasons and impacts of this lack of popularity in Canadian studies. For the past 15 years, the situation has been deteriorating. Surprisingly, Canadian Studies in abroad with different scenario and do not suffer the same fate and seem quite appealing to foreign students. For example, more students are writing graduate dissertations in Canadian studies in Germany than there are in Canada. To enhance and promote Canadian studies in /India as well as in Abroad, Library can create effective and fruitful environment for the encouraging the students.

Objectives of the Study: Main Objective of this study is sharing Experiences & Best Practices and discuss how they offer Services to Users to make the Library truly Happening Place of the Centre. By improving its processes and activities, optimizing resource utilization, trained manpower, and delivering high quality, value added services to its users, purpose of the Best Practices can be fulfilled. Discussing the important factors e.g. adoption of well defined, transparent, User-focused, and technology-oriented processes and practices with a flexibility to change and improve can lead the Library to be the best. Library can play a important role by offering high quality services and also able to create Healthy and Interesting environment for the Students for their Research and Study.

Centre of Canadian Studies in India

Many Centres has been established in India to enhance and encourage more students for Canadian Studies. Some of well know are listed here.

1) Indian Association for Canadian Studies :

This Centre is established in 1985 where First international conference on Canadian Studies held at the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. It is voluntary, non-profit, scholarly registered both as a trust and a Society with government of Gujarat. It is registered under Foreign Exchange Rules with the government of India Indian Association for Canadian Studies is a. **The Objectives of the IACS are to** Encourage and Promote teaching, research, and publications related to Canadian/Indo- Canadian Studies; To encourage inter-disciplinary, multi-disciplinary and comparative approaches to Canadian/Indo-Canadian Studies and To Encourage and outreach new members and the general public regarding Canadian/ Indo-Canadian matters etc.

2) Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute :

Canadian Studies in India: Library, Book and Journal Programmes

Canadian Studies Library

The Canadian Studies Library (CSL), is the main information resource centre of Canadian publications in India which is inaugurated in 1991. The Library has a huge and comprehensive

collection of books, journals and newspapers, videocassettes, DVD's, CD ROMs and microfiche with specific Canadian content. The Canadian Studies Library is important as a reference and resource library for anyone seeking information on Canada, for University and College students, research scholars, academicians, professors, business entrepreneurs seeking information, and persons visiting or immigrating to Canada.

3) UGC Area Study Centre for Canadian Studies University of Kerala

Set up in 1991, The Centre for Canadian Studies at the University of Kerala intended to further India Canada relationship and to explore and promote academic research in Canadian Studies. The UGC awarded it the prestigious Area Studies Centre Status in 2003 for recognition of the commendable work done by the Centre which is the only one of its kind in the University of Kerala. It aims to promote teaching and research on Canada. The University of Kerala is a member of the India Member Council of the Shastri Indo Canadian Institute, New Delhi.

In abroad : Some of few are listed here to understand about foreign scenario regarding the Canadian studies.

1) University of the Fraser Valley: India-Canada Studies certificate

The course content of the India-Canada Studies certificate to give students a sound basis in a range of essential areas of knowledge; strong understanding of a diverse area of study about a sub-continent and its Canadian Diaspora. It also provides an opportunity to develop deeper knowledge and skills in a specialized area of concentration that is very useful for this local area, B.C., and Canada.

2) High Commission of Canada in Australia

Understanding Canada: Canadian Studies

The Government of Canada's Understanding Canada program established with aims to have a positive influence on the promotion of Canada's interests in the world. The main objective of the program is to develop a greater knowledge and understanding of Canada, its values and its culture among scholars and other influential groups abroad. The program is intended for foreign academics who want to study about or conduct research on Canada. Some components of the program are also available to promote teaching, publications and conferences about Canada in various disciplines.

Library as a Part of the Study to Enhance the Canadian Study; Celebrate the Canadian Culture and Values.

Library can play a greater role to meet the aims of the centre by arranging Activities, Workshops and Publications which create interesting environment for the Students about their Study.

1) Publications :

Publications of Newsletters which includes next coming events of the Library as well as Centre's, Added resources, announcement of Workshops, Seminar etc helps Users' to be connected with their study.

2) Workshops / Seminars :

Library can arrange Workshops / Seminars related to Canadian Culture, History, Politics etc. to increase the interest of the Students for the Canadian Study.

3) By Adopting New Technology : Library can become Heart of the Centre and Happening Place for the Researchers by adopting New Technology to provide efficient services **with No Time and No Place Boundaries e.g 24/7 anywhere.. anytime.....**

- **Remote Login Facility:** RemoteXs has an ability to provide secured access to scattered E-Resources of the institution, bringing them under one umbrella, along with subscribed eJournals, eBooks and all other eContent, that too anytime ...from anywhere..... This helps Users to connect with Library by 24/7... !!
- **Library Website:** All the details regarding the Library e.g. Various Resources, OPAC, Upcoming Events, Services, Institutional Repository etc. can be described here in detail so without the physical presence in the Library one can get all the necessary information of the Library from anywhere...anytime.....
- **Institutional Repository:** Intellectual Property of the Centre can be managed by DSpace. So this digital content can be used by the Users anywhere from the Centre, Visit of the Library is not required.

4) Book Review by the Author/Teacher /Students: Best Seller, Interesting, Well Reviewed written by prominent People etc. can be reviewed here among the Users by Student, Faculty and even sometimes by the Author of the book.

5) Talk Show :

“Talk-SHOW” is a dialogue-based discussion sessions: Informal Session with Expert & Coffee...! Recent Trends and information in Canadian Study can be discussed by the Expert in very informal session with dialogue exchange.....

6) Books Displays on specific Topic: Interesting & Useful Topics in Canadian Study can be Selected and Display. So Students can be made aware with the new added collection even interesting collection they may not aware of.

7) Library on Social Media :

By posting updates on Facebook, Library can inform the Users about the Library's programmes, activities and services. We can invite students to attend training sessions, post practical information about the Library's opening times, link to new and existing print and online resources, and update the Centre's any new developments. 'Followers' are engaged with the Library by commenting on posts and sharing them with their friends. Social Media helps in Marketing the Library & it's Service with great extent & spread Awareness among the User community

Conclusion :

Librarian should have willingness to go beyond the boundaries and make the Best Use of Resources and Manpower to provide high scale information services. By applying latest Technologies & Innovative Services, Library can become the Heart of the Institute & for the Users Community; & would be become the Most Happening Place in the Centre.....! To Promote and enhance any Study and Course Library's involvement is foremost needed. With the help of the Latest Technology Library can be able to engage Student Community for their Research work and other studies and able to play a major important role to enhance Canadian Study in India.

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